

up (carved in stone); and colour has been slightly introduced in the vaultings. The vaulting of the Lady-chapel is stone colour; the ribs have blue and red lines upon them, and the bosses are gilt. The capitals of the columns are also gilt, and coloured red and blue. In the chancel the bosses, alone, are gilt on a red ground. The new stained glass does not seem to be of a very satisfactory character.

The lower story of the Chapter-house, referred to by Mr. Willis, has many very interesting points, and the refectory house-pulpit by the side of the fire-place.

St. Guthbert's Church, in Wells, eminently deserved a visit, and should have been described by some architect acquainted with it. The arcade, dividing nave and aisles, is Early English; the upper part of the building, Perpendicular. The roof, a most interesting specimen, was groined some years ago to imitate oil-cloth! The chancel is now being restored: we could not learn that any architect was employed. An extraordinary series of stone effigies, painted and gilt, were discovered here about three years ago, and are placed in an adjoining apartment. The position of the piscina, at the east end, high up, is peculiar; especially if the low level of the door at the side be observed. The tower (ascribed to Wolsey, although certainly earlier in aspect), is broad and massive,—one of the finest in the country of its class. The state of the upper part of it demands immediate attention. We cannot stop, however, in Wells. The journey back was long and tiresome, but the day as a whole was very satisfactory.

Amongst the papers read at the architectural section was one by Mr. Britton on

#### THE TOPOGRAPHY OF BRISTOL, of which we give a portion:—

"Let us indulge a hope," said the writer, "that the pursuits and conduct of London archaeologists may make a favourable and lasting impression on provincial lovers of the science, and prove to them, as well as to those who are merely lookers on, that our objects are rational and intellectual, and eminently calculated to expand the mind and ameliorate the heart.

"Nor dull nor barren are the winding ways  
Of hoar antiquity, but strewn with flowers."

Having traversed these paths for more than half a century—explored their "highways and byways"—on mountain and dingle—on the wide-spread plain—in the secluded dell—in the "busy haunts of men," and in deep recesses now almost deserted by the human race, and only occupied by the owl, the bat, the toad, and the fox,—I can confidently assert that objects of the deepest interest may be found in all these devious tracks. It is true the flowers of the *parterre* referred to by the poet have not much similitude to the relics of by-gone ages; but it is equally true that "hoar antiquity" has many charms and fascinations to those who can appreciate them. As the florist and the botanist have their *hortus siccus*, to preserve and renew to the eye and mind the forms and hues of flowers and plants, so has the archaeologist his casts, models, drawings, and engravings of rare and interesting antiquities. One studies the living world and its beauties—the other things that have been. One looks "through Nature up to Nature's God,"— whilst the other studies the progress and history of man through his works, and therein traces the Omnipotence and Omniscience of Deity. Let us therefore pursue our favourite studies with zeal, and with discrimination; deriving, as we must, a great amount of useful knowledge by comparing and contrasting the memorials of former ages with the state and

customs of the woodrorn epoch in which we live."

After speaking of the failure of Mr. Beyer in his endeavour to obtain access to the archives of the Bristol Corporation for the preparation of his memoirs of the neighbourhood, the writer remarked,—"Fortunately for us, the topographers and antiquaries of the present age, we live in better, more enlightened, and liberal times; and although we may meet with impediments to check huddable inquiry in such places as the Rolls-office, the Tower archives, the State-paper and Prerogative offices, there are many public museums and libraries freely and gratuitously accessible to respectable authors and antiquarian students. The manuscripts, regalia, &c., which belong to this city, and which have been kindly exhibited to the members of this institution by the corporation, show the character and value of such property."

Mr. Norton read a paper on the proposed restoration of Bristol Cross, in the course of which he said; that by the liberality displayed by the gentlemen of the council the contract for the erection of the cross had been entered into with a native artist, Mr. Thomas, for 300*l*. The steps forming the visible substructure were of Cornish granite, from Penryn, and cost 100*l*. The figures were not yet contracted for, but he hoped when the shell was up that the love of archaeology and architecture awakened would induce the citizens to enrich the vacant niches with their appropriate effigies.

At the Historical section the Chevalier Bunsen read a paper on the 'Lake Moeris.' His Excellency said,—

"Of all countries in the world none depended, and up to the present moment depends, more upon the element which Pindar and Hippocrates call the first for mankind, after she has breathed, than Egypt—the produce of the Nile, as Herodotus calls the greatest part of its arable soil. If, then, it should turn out that the Lake of Moeris, one of the greatest miracles as well as riddles of ancient Egypt, is to a certain degree the work of man, and has for its object nothing less than to render habitable and fertile what since has been, and still is, the richest and most productive province of the land of the Pharaohs, the inquiry into this subject will present not only an antiquarian interest, as the solution of a historical problem which since Napoleon's expedition has occupied the attention of the civilized world and exercised the ingenuity of scholars and antiquaries, but also a fit subject for the Archaeological Institute of Great Britain.

I believe I have established the principal point of interest: the Lake of Moeris was a vast reservoir of the Nile, destined to irrigate the province of Fajum. It was constructed so as to allow the superabundant water to supply the eastern districts of the valley of the Nile, in the neighbourhood of Fajum. This is so natural, and certain, that M. Liénart has submitted to the Viceroy of Egypt a project to renew the Lake of Moeris for the same purpose, in order to restore the province of Fajum to its pristine fertility; and to have at command a supply of water for the western side of the valley of the Nile in years of scarcity."

Amongst other papers read we may mention one by Mr. Clark, on the

SEVERAL MONUMENTS IN BRISTOL, wherein he said that—"This city had a great number of sepulchral monuments in its cathedral and churches, which, although they were not so sumptuous and magnificent as those to be found in many other cities, had been set up to commemorate persons who had performed some great and noble actions. During the restoration of the

chapter-room attached to the cathedral, several stone coffins were discovered, one of which had a rude carving on the lid, which Dean Beck caused to be built in the wall of the monument, where it could now be seen. In St. Mary's, Redcliffe, were remains of three coffins: one of them had a slightly relieved sculptured effigy on the cover, with two words under it, 'Joannes Lamyngton,' who was chaplain in 1398. The crypt of St. Nicholas church was said to have been originally a cemetery of the ancient church, and subsequently used by the fraternity of the Holy Ghost as a chapel; it contained a stone coffin, discovered in 1871, and by the inscription upon it the remains were discovered to be those of one Michael and Richard le Draper, who were placed there in 1311. In it was a perfect male skeleton, and at its feet a female skull, the body appearing to have been burnt to enclose it within the coffin. In St. Mary Redcliffe church was a curious slab to the memory of Wm. Coke, who was cook to the founder, Wm. Canynge, and had the symbols of his occupation, namely, a knife and skimmer, engraved on the stone, with an old-letter inscription on the top. In the cathedral were eight richly ornamented recesses formed in the walls of the chancel and aisles: they constituted part of the original design, having been constructed when the edifice was rebuilt by Abbot Knowle. The three recesses in the chancel contained the monuments of Abbot Knowle, the reformer, who was said to have refused for interment the corpse of his murdered sovereign, Edward the Second; of Abbot Newberry, and Abbot Newland, alias Nail-beat, the latter of whom beautified the building. Near the pulpit was an altar-tomb, containing the statue of a skeleton, the emblem of mortality, lying with its head on a mitre, and a pastoral staff on the right side: it was to the memory of Paul Bush, first bishop of the cathedral, who, having incurred the displeasure of Queen Mary, by marrying, was obliged to resign his bishopric. Then there was the effigy of Thomas Lord Berkeley, who died in 1243, and another to the memory of Maurice Berkeley, the second lord of that name, who died in 1281. In the south aisle, under an arch in the thickness of the south wall, which was formerly open to the chapel of the Virgin Mary, now used as a vestry room, was an altar tomb, which contained five shields, charged with coats of arms of the Berkeleys, Ferrers, and Quingys, and thereby attributed to the second Thomas Lord Berkeley, whose wives were of the families above mentioned: his death occurred in 1321. There were also several other monuments in the cathedral, erected at a time subsequent to those we have previously alluded to. The chapel of the hospital of St. Mark, now called the Mayor's Chapel, contained some very beautiful sculptured figures, among which were two effigies, supposed to represent Maurice de Gaunt and Robert de Gournay, the original founders of the hospital. There was also a beautifully-carved marble recumbent figure of Miles Salley, Abbot of Elnham, afterwards Bishop of Llandaff, who died in 1516. There was another altar tomb, with the effigies of Sir Thomas de Berkeley (who died in 1361) and his wife."

Mr. Clark then proceeded to describe some of the monuments in St. James's Church, where was interred, in 1147, its founder, Robert, Earl of Gloucester; St. Stephen's Church, St. Mary-le-Port, and St. Peter's; after which he produced some rubbings of monumental brasses. He concluded by expressing a hope that a greater interest might be taken in restoring and preserving those beautiful examples of early art which they possessed, and that some method might be devised for superseding the style of memorials now used for one more in character with the edifice in which they were placed, and thereby adorn the church instead of disfiguring it.

At the joint dinner of the Canynge Society and the Institute, the Bishop of Oxford pro-